VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

BY

JOHN ROBBINS HART, Ph. D.
RECTOR, WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Hart, John R
Valley Forge during World War II
Palm Beach
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FOR FDR, WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL

VALLEY FORGE MILITARY ACADEMY AND JUNIOR COLLEGE
WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA

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VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II



Robert Morris Thanksgiving Tower

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Robert Morris Thanksgiving Tower

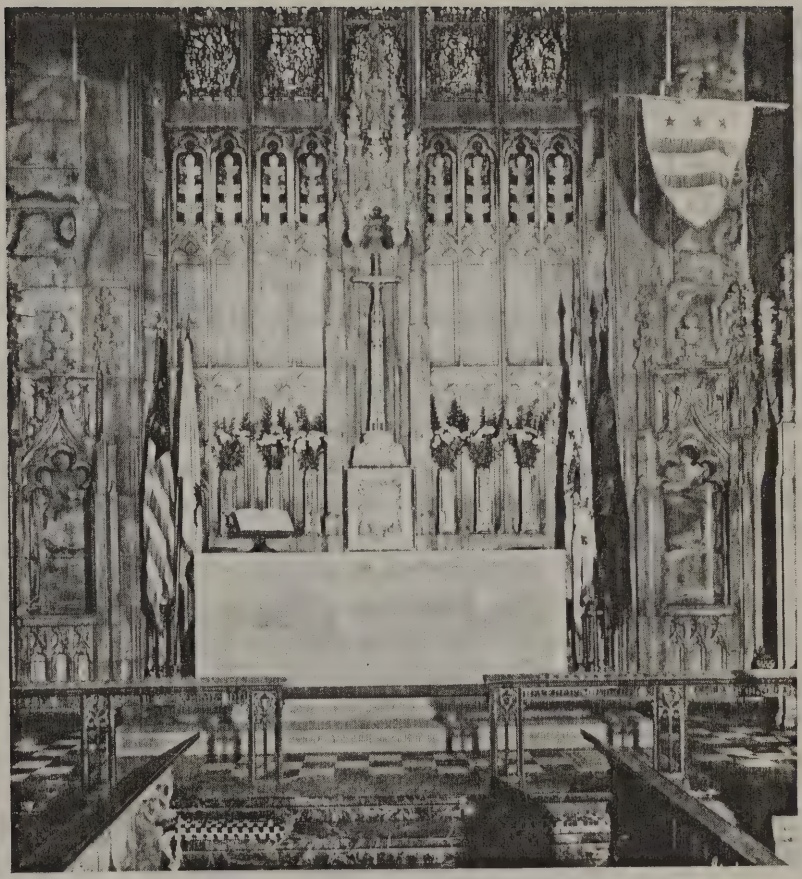


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The Altar, Washington Memorial Chapel

The Alum Washington Memorial Chapel

Valley Forge During World War II

Introduction

All that Valley Forge means to the people of the United States naturally comes to the surface in times of emergency and crisis. During the greatest war in the history of the world, in which our country becomes increasingly effective, Valley Forge likewise becomes increasingly important. Public speakers, educators, journalists and government officials all use the name of this, our national shrine, to express the ultimate in patriotism, loyalty, courage, faith and victory.

It seems expedient, therefore, to publish the facts about the meaning, program, atmosphere and progress of Valley Forge at this time. Earlier writings have covered the history of the years that are gone, and now I would express the truth about the present unprecedented years of global strife, from the same snow-clad hills.

The narrative is naturally dedicated to all the enlisted men and women of our country, who believe in the "Power that hath made and preserved us a nation," and are willing to match General Washington's troops in courage, hardihood and the spirit "that shall never call retreat."

From the very beginning of World War II, it was apparent that it would be a struggle of gigantic proportions. Its relationship to the Sino-Japanese War, then in its third year, was clearly revealed, and by the time our country entered the struggle it was truly a world or global war. Moreover, this world-wide contest was seen as one which involves all people, not only the enlisted forces. For the first time in history the discoveries of science have been used by the military experts to carry the fight and its devastation into the innermost recesses of civilian life. We are all in the war.

It is most natural, therefore, that the leaders of all nations should call for the entire mental and spiritual power of their people as well as the fighting ability of their soldiery. In such a time of need our national shrine at Valley Forge was destined to help. On these grounds had been found the spirit and discipline to win the war which made us a nation. On these grounds, so often favorably compared with Marathon and Runnymede, General Washington knelt in prayer during his worst crisis, and found what he needed. During this present crisis, many patriots kneel in prayer and find what they need. Valley Forge is and always will be Valley Forge. During the last struggle, badly named World War I, Dr. W. Herbert Burk, founder of The Washington Memorial Chapel, fostered the good tradition of having enlisted men dedicate themselves anew to God and country at this altar before leaving for the front. This tradition is being perpetuated.

The regular Chapel services have been maintained and conducted with special attention given to the two needs—the need of those in the many branches of the service and the need of all who work at home for the same great cause. What a mighty unity this is and will be when ten million men and women on the attack know that one hundred and twenty millions are securely and sincerely behind them, working with body and soul for them.

The Washington Memorial is indeed "a wayside chapel" as Dr. Burk first expressed it. A spiritual home for many from different parts of the country, who are without church home, hither they come for faith, meditation and inspiration, for marriage and baptism and other rites, in the performance of which I continue to get splendid help from the Rev. Caleb Cresson.

Not only to do first things first but also to do only first things has become one of our war mottoes at Valley Forge.

When the patriots of Revolutionary days gave us the United States of America, they were sure that Valley Forge was first—first in spirit, first in the training that had made a victorious army, first in

sacrifice, suffering and discipline, first in revealing the many and varied qualities, virtues and faith of George Washington.

Valley Forge has maintained this first place through the loyalty of the people who have known how to build and retain traditions. Frequently we see that it is more difficult to maintain and perpetuate something of great value than it was to obtain it in the first place. Certainly Valley Forge was difficult enough to obtain, and whether it is more or less difficult to maintain, we are resolved and prepared to do it.

In this world struggle, in which our country becomes increasingly central, there is just as much need of Valley Forge as there was in 1777. How inspiring for every enlisted man and woman and every civilian to believe that all we have ever known about the power and glory of Valley Forge must now be practiced in our lives if this "evil thing that has come upon us" is to be destroyed.

Friends of Valley Forge and of America come to this hallowed shrine and kneel before the Divine Life as Washington did and go forth to win the world for all people who "love mercy, do justly and walk humbly with their God."

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

Valley Forge Reunion

February 22, 1940, marked the first reunion in recent years of those who, since 1903, have aided in the preservation and enlarging of the life at Valley Forge. Several hundred persons came from far and near to enjoy the program and witness the modern arrangement and furnishings of the buildings and grounds.

Many museum exhibits were rearranged and many others were brought out of the storehouse and displayed for the first time. A lack of space has always curtailed the attempt to give a complete showing of the many valuable historical possessions of the museum.

In addition to the library and the Chapel offices, the log cabin was used to receive the old friends and Washington Birthday visitors. Throughout the day fraternal greetings were exchanged and the glorious Valley Forge tradition enriched.

The Chapel Choir, under the direction of Marion Spangler, entertained with a well-chosen and varied selection of songs. At the Vesper Service Dr. Hart spoke on the meaning of patriotism, substituting for Judge Buffington, who was prevented from attending because of illness.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

Boy Scout Pilgrimages

During these war years, the Boy Scouts have continued their annual pilgrimage to Valley Forge. Between four and five thousand Scouts of Delaware and Montgomery counties follow the thirty-year-old tradition of visiting the national shrine on Washington's Birthday or the Saturday nearest that day.

The Tenderfoot Scouts are escorted into the Chapel for the investiture service. Following this ceremony the entire body, with flags unfurled, assemble in the Woodland Cathedral outside the Chapel, facing the Cloister of the Colonies and the Carillon. As the chimes ring out the national anthem, the Scouts sing, and are then addressed by their leader and the rector. After this service, chosen leaders of the boys and men march to Dr. Burk's grave and hold appropriate memorial exercises. The youthful army then scatters to the hillsides, frequently snow-clad and in sub-freezing temperatures, to cook lunch and experience the rigors of the outdoor and self-reliant life. Here they can well remind one another of the privations and hardships endured by Washington and his men when the mettle of American courage and purpose was wrought and tempered.

The Boy Pals of Germantown have made Memorial Day another Boy Scout Day at Valley Forge. In addition to the kinds of meeting described above, the Boy Pals pay their respects at the grave of Lieutenant Waterman, the only identified grave of the Continental Army at Valley Forge.

During the month of May, a mammoth "Camporee" of the Delaware and Montgomery Counties Scouts is held in Artillery Park; and at almost every Sunday service members of some troop are in attendance at the Chapel. Special assistance in this work is being given by Fred Baehr.

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The Dogwood

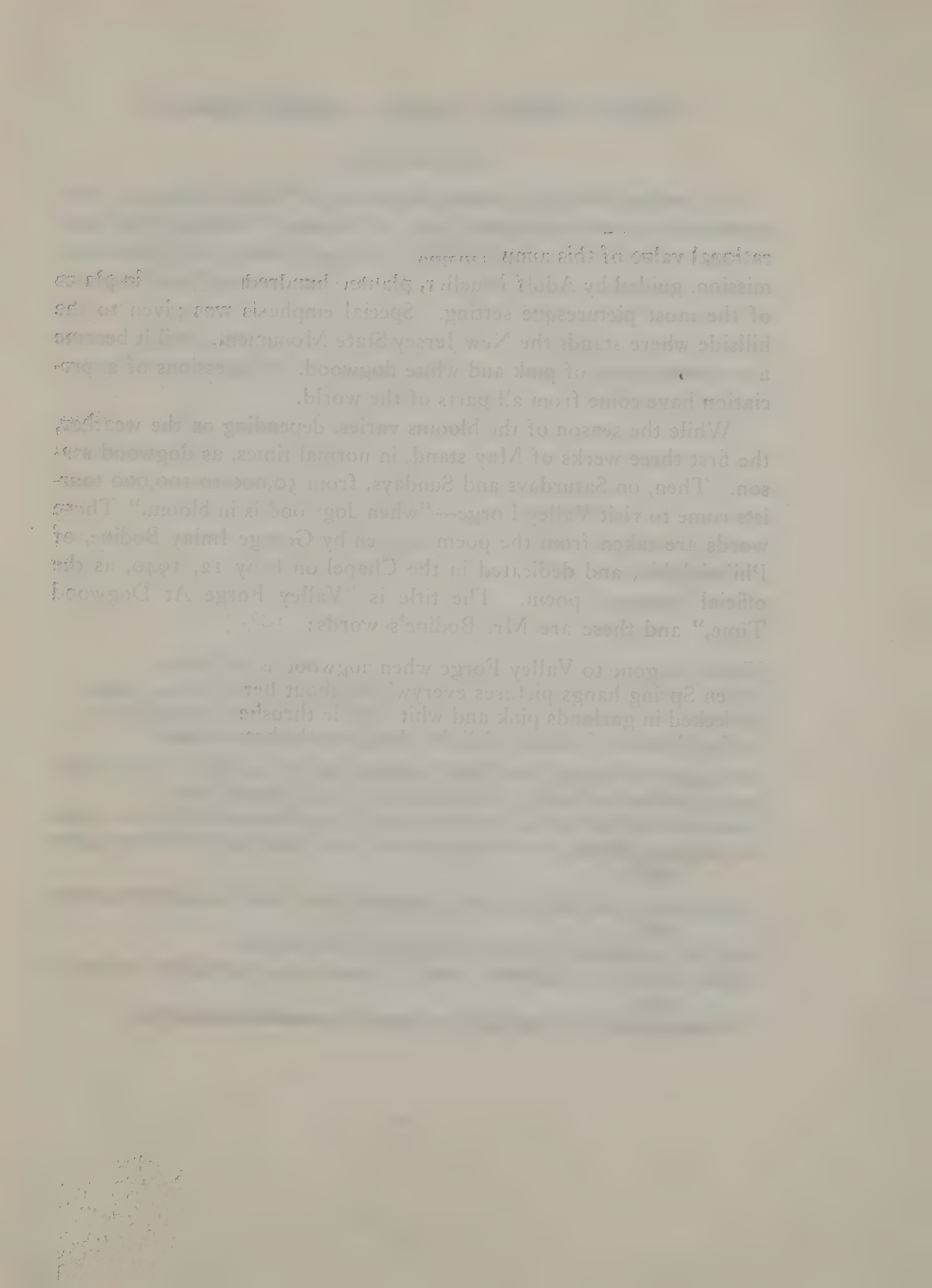
For many years the famous dogwood at Valley Forge has been admired by an ever-increasing army of tourists. Realizing the inspirational value of this annual display of natural beauty, the Park Commission, guided by Adolf Mueller, planted hundreds of trees in places of the most picturesque setting. Special emphasis was given to the hillside where stands the New Jersey State Monument, until it became a veritable grove of pink and white dogwood. Expressions of appreciation have come from all parts of the world.

While the season of the blooms varies, depending on the weather, the first three weeks of May stand, in normal times, as dogwood season. Then, on Saturdays and Sundays, from 50,000 to 100,000 tourists come to visit Valley Forge—"when dogwood is in bloom." Those words are taken from the poem written by George Imlay Bodine, of Philadelphia, and dedicated in the Chapel on May 12, 1940, as the official dogwood poem. The title is "Valley Forge At Dogwood Time," and these are Mr. Bodine's words:

Have you gone to Valley Forge when dogwood is in bloom,
When Spring hangs pictures everywhere about her spacious room,
Bedecked in garlands pink and white, while thrushes sing their lay,
In liquid notes of strange delight, that take the breath away?

For dogwood bursts 'long field and stream, down hill and over dale,
And ghostlike in the forest deep, away from sun and gale.
You've been there too, I note your smile, you've waited for the night,
At evening heard the whip-poor-will, and watched the moon grow bright.

You've heard the screech-owl's mournful call, you've stood by yonder arch,
Seen the troops of yesterday, heroes on the march.
Thank God for dogwood when it blooms, for moonlight when 'tis pale,
For springtime with its birds in tune, o'er every hill and dale.



VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

Dedication of the Dogwood

On May 10, 1941, the dogwood trees were officially dedicated and the event was reported by the "New York Times" as follows:

In the presence of representatives of ten of the original states and several thousand other guests, Valley Forge's famous groves of dogwood, including about 60,000 trees, were dedicated today to the memory of George Washington and his Continental Army, who suffered here during the winter of 1777-78. Governor James, relating the story of the patriotic devotion of Washington's ragged troops, called upon Americans today, in the event of war, "to attempt to emulate the men who suffered on these hills and emulate the man who led them. By doing this, we will bring out the best that is in America, and make it possible for freedom and democracy to reign throughout the world. It is easy to make declarations of what we shall do, but we must be willing to suffer and sacrifice for those things. We must put our trust not only in men, but in a Divine Power as Washington and his men did."

The Rev. Dr. John Robbins Hart, Chaplain of the Washington Memorial Chapel, referring to the early blossoming of the trees, told the audience grouped in the natural amphitheatre about General Samuel Huntington's headquarters, that "we value the blossoms for their own sake, but we are really here to commemorate Valley Forge, central in the attainment of liberty long ago, central in maintaining that liberty today. As we prepare to defend that which we believe is true and right," Dr. Hart urged, "may we also go to help those who are enslaved, and release them from captivity and suffering. We know this world cannot exist half slave and half free."

Theodore Lane Bean, a former State Senator and a trustee of the Valley Forge Park Commission, described the dictators as "advocates of the ancient principles of authority," saying they were engaged "in a struggle to make this principle supreme and dominant in all the nations, including the Americas."

The program began with the mass singing of "America" and closed with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner." Music was played by the 108th Field Artillery Band, which came from Indiantown Gap, and also by the band from the Valley Forge Military Academy.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD [illegible]

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Memorial Chapel, referring to the coal[illegible]
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Official representatives of the other original states were: New York, Lithgow Osborne, Conservation Commissioner; Massachusetts, Lieutenant Governor Horace T. Cahill; Connecticut, Lieutenant Governor Odell Sheppard; New Jersey, I. Grant Scott, President of the State Senate; Delaware, Earl D. Wiley, Secretary of State; Maryland, John D. Gontrum, Insurance Commissioner; Virginia, Dr. Roland A. Egger, Director of the Budget; North Carolina, Harold D. Cooley; and South Carolina, W. B. Blackwell, Secretary of State.

Greek Rites at Valley Forge

On February 22, 1941, about five hundred Greek-Americans came to the Chapel for a special patriotic service. Their visit was reported by the "New York Times" as follows:

Washington's Birthday celebrations included a highly impressive service at the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge in the interests of Greece. Sponsored by the Greek War Relief, the memorial ritual of the Greek Orthodox Church was used by Archbishop Athenagoras of the Greek Orthodox Church for North and South America, with singing by a choir selected from the Greek churches of New York. A Greek flag was presented to the Chapel by Nicholas G. Lely, Consul General of Greece in New York. It was placed with other national and patriotic flags in the Chapel. Mr. Stephan Stephano, of Philadelphia, was chairman of the committee in charge.

Dr. Hart, speaking to a crowd that overflowed the Chapel, the library and other rooms, said he was welcoming "the entire Greek nation to Valley Forge. In the person of His Grace Archbishop Athenagoras we have the embodiment of all that we wish in the Greek people. Through him and all of you who have made this long pilgrimage, we are going to be united with the people of Greece, now and throughout their struggle for liberty. Through all the centuries, Greece has represented the spirit of heroism and sacrifice, freedom and culture, and in these later days Valley Forge likewise has meant all that we love and believe in. From the plains of Marathon to General Washington and his troops at Valley Forge is a long time in years, but a direct and short route in spirit. That same spirit we have today—Greeks and Americans—and we are here to proclaim it from this, our national shrine, and to call upon God to bless these people and the armies of Greece and Great Britain and all liberty loving

people. We want to help all those who struggle and suffer. We do not want brave men to die for us and we do nothing about it. Let us give generously of our money to the Greek cause, to work, pray and encourage these heroes of this world conflict, and if the time comes when we should fight we are ready to fight and ready to die."

Archbishop Athenagoras suggested that in tribute to the cause of democracy, Greek people and their descendants might make an annual pilgrimage to Valley Forge.

Presentation of Flag by Gold Star Mothers

The Washington Memorial Chapel possesses an extensive and varied collection of flags. Standing by the altar are the French flags used in the American Revolution by Lafayette. Hanging above the choir stalls are the different brigade flags of those memorable days. Other special Revolutionary and Colonial banners are on exhibition in the Chapel or Museum, or are used on appropriate occasions. The forty-eight flags of the states of the Union are numbered among this rich collection and are used regularly at the State Sunday services. Patriotic and historical groups have added their emblems to the colorful and symbolic trophies.

On May 8, 1940, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Gold Star Mothers of America presented their flag to the Chapel. Mrs. G. Williams, national president of the organization, made the presentation and stressed the direct association between Valley Forge and the experience of every Gold Star Mother in making the supreme sacrifice.

Major-General Edward C. Shannon, chairman of the Valley Forge Park Commission, and General William G. Price, Jr., also spoke. Rev. John Robbins Hart made the address of acceptance and offered the prayer of dedication. Mrs. Elizabeth R. Master, of Philadelphia, expressed the gratitude of the National Society and Philadelphia Chapter for the distinctive place accorded them in the tradition of Valley Forge.

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"For Those in Peril"

Among the many new hymns that have appeared of late, one seems to stand out conspicuously, and is frequently used. This is a revision of the old hymn "Eternal Father, strong to save," by William Whiting (tune "Melita"). As originally written, the hymn was a beautiful expression of prayer for all persons on the high seas, and its recurring theme was worded: "For those in peril on the sea." This wartime revision enlarges the scope and takes into account our armed forces in all branches of service, each verse being a petition for those in a different branch:

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave;
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O, hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

Creator, who dost from above
Observe Thy sons with eyes of love;
Who canst preserve where'er they be
Our men who fight for home and Thee;
O, put Thou forth a guiding hand
For those in peril on the land.

Almighty, who canst from on high
Protect our flyers in the sky,
And guide each pilot in his plane
The length and breadth of Thy domain;
O, hearken to our fervent prayer
For those in peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power
Our forces shield in danger's hour;
From peril, onslaught, fire and foe
Protect them where-so-e'er they go;
Thus ever may there rise to Thee
Glad hymns from air and land and sea.

—Tune "Melita."

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

Newspaper Articles and Editorials

During these war days, newspapers and magazines have frequently used the Valley Forge traditions and mottoes. On February 21, 1942, "The Christian Science Monitor" published pictures of the Continental Arch given by the United States Government in memory of the entire Continental Army, with its inscription well displayed:

> And here in this place of sacrifice, in this vale of the shadow of that death out of which the life of America rose, regenerate and free, let us believe with an abiding faith that to them union will seem as dear and liberty as sweet and progress as glorious as they were to our fathers and are to you and me, and that the institutions which have made us happy preserved by the virtue of our children shall bless the remotest generation of the time to come.—Henry Armit Brown.

The article continues:

Valley Forge is separated from Independence Hall, Philadelphia, by 21 miles. The depressing winter at Valley Forge was separated from the inspiring acceptance of the Constitution at Philadelphia by ten years. Across that short distance and within that short period the world moved out of one epoch into the beginning of another. The road from the realm of subjugation to the realm of human liberation passed through a dark valley. The road to liberty still passes through dark places.

Valley Forge was America's shame and America's glory. As American soldiers went barefoot in the snow, other Americans were laying by an extra pair of new shoes. As some Americans voluntarily sacrificed everything to fight for freedom, other Americans were devoting all their energies to getting rich. As some Americans shivered through long, lonely nights, other Americans were mirthfully revelling in well-lighted, luxurious ballrooms. As some Americans were paying the supreme price to end tyranny, other Americans not far from Valley Forge were joyfully consorting with the agents of tyranny and with soldiers wearing the uniforms of tyrants. The contrast was the shame of Valley Forge. Its glory was that some men and some women proved supremely true. They retained their vision and kept their faith. They knew that many Americans were indifferent and selfish, that graft existed, treachery was rather common, and

confusion abounded, but they kept on. Valley Forge was far more than a military feat—it was a symbol and guarantee of spiritual worth. Valley Forge glows through all dull, dark days as an answer to the selfish, to the cynical and the dull of mind. America means not only buying and selling, building things and getting ahead, having a good time and outdoing rivals, it also means faith, devotion and fidelity. That is the essence of America. Valley Forge was prayer. It was austerity, abnegation, duty-doing. It was sticking to the post and watching through the night.

Not every Valley Forge leads to triumph; not all snows melt away. Whither our present Valley Forge shall lead us depends on us. Before us are all necessary weapons, in our hands is the destiny of the world, above us is the same bright banner that Washington carried. Let us kneel as he knelt, renew the consecration which he offered, and follow the path of duty which he took. It was a victory oath. (R. H. MARKHAM.)

The "Philadelphia Record," an editorial:

VALLEY FORGE 160 YEARS AFTER

One hundred and sixty years ago today, the Continental Army, under the command of General Washington, marched northward six miles from Gulph Mill and wearily pitched its winter camp on the rugged slopes of Valley Forge. The army, proceeding from White Marsh in search of a reasonably secure refuge during the winter months, had arrived at Gulph Mill on December 13th in a blinding sleet and snow storm. Not until the 16th, when the storm had abated, could tents be raised and some degree of comfort provided for the soldiers.

Of the privations and sufferings of General Washington's ragged army during that terrible winter, while the British troops were living in warmth and luxury, much has been written. But the story of Valley Forge cannot be impressed too deeply on the consciousness of true Americans. Cyrus Townsend Brady, member of one of the famous pioneer families of western Pennsylvania, wrote in one of his books: "No spot on earth, not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastille, nor the dikes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge. The story of Valley Forge is one for every American, young and old, to cherish. The nation, born of

such travail as George Washington, his officers and men, endured in that winter of 1777-78, is worth all that those who came after can give to protect it from harm. No site in this country could provide the inspiration for youth that is offered by those hallowed hills. In the 160 years since the American Nation has gone far. It has become the light and hope of the world. But its greater destiny lies ahead. Nothing, not enemies without nor traitors within, must be permitted to swerve it from its course or weaken the ideals of independence for which its founders fought and bled.

The "Philadelphia Inquirer," an editorial:

TO FRANCE

We, who live under the shadows of Valley Forge, can never forget the memorable day of May 6th, 1778. Washington, battered and almost defeated by the British, had barely endured through the terrible winter with practically no support. The Continental Congress and the Revolutionary cause were weakened by Fifth Column British social Tories in Philadelphia fraternizing with Lord Howe and his officers. But Franklin had turned the tide in Paris. The status of our great country was changed from that of a London-George III controlled Canada, India, South Africa and Australia to our free independent State.

And now, today, France lies battered—in dire need of our help—with her torn homesteads, her mourning, her loss of 1,200,000 wounded and killed, but worse, her wounded pride. But France will rise again as before, ruled by Frenchmen for Frenchmen. France will again welcome Americans who come to her shores as tourists to enjoy the culture of centuries.

"Philadelphia Inquirer," December 20, 1942:

AT VALLEY FORGE 165 YEARS AGO

The Rev. Dr. John R. Hart, rector of the Washington Memorial Chapel, has given a timely reminder that it was during the week just ended, 165 years ago, that General George Washington and his Continental forces, already ragged and weary, went into winter quarters at Valley Forge.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

It is worthwhile to quote Dr. Hart's words: "Here, where not a gun was fired, the battle was won which proved the turning point of the Revolution."

The point is well taken. It must never be forgotten. It was the fortitude, amazing when we think of it now, of Washington and his men during a winter of terrible hardships, that forged those who survived into a hard, splendidly trained fighting Army that went on thereafter from one victory to another.

We should be glad that we do not need such a trial today of our fighting men. In no other war have our soldiers gone to the battle lines so well equipped and supplied as in this one. But back of that there is, and must continue to be, a minor degree of self-sacrifice at home. It is insignificant by comparison with what the men of Valley Forge suffered.

It takes the form of house heat held to 65 degrees—which would make a Russian laugh; of less butter and meat; of not so much coffee or sugar; of harder work for some, higher taxes for everybody and a blackout now and then, with the ever-present appeal, "Buy bonds! Buy bonds!"

Perhaps we will give up a little more; "suffer" a little more. But the snow we have to trudge through, because the car remains in the garage, will have no grim red spots upon it.

The Music Center

In keeping with the beauty of nature at Valley Forge and the Chapel Building, the Music Center was instituted in December, 1939, and the response on the part of musicians and music patrons has been pronounced. How many people there are who believe that music is the most universal language! We aim to understand its meaning and deepen its inspiration and to share it with all who come to our national shrine.

The officers and executive committee of the new Center have been generous with their time and energy, and we delight in having Marion Spangler, director of our choir, Dr. Jeno Donath, well-known violinist and conductor, and Chester Norton, organist, to serve as a faculty. In addition to private instruction, music lectures and music appreciation

classes, organ recitals, indoor and outdoor concerts have been given. All have been progressively significant.

A most attractive outdoor setting is found in the Woodland Cathedral. This part of the wooded hill adjoining the Chapel and Carillon is so named because the trees were planted in a way that would give the appearance of a Gothic Cathedral. The center and side aisles were maintained and the trees thus planted come together in over-hanging arches. The musicians use the Cloister of the Colonies and a platform in front of the Cloister, which enables the audience to enjoy the beauty of the buildings while listening to the music. In the cool of the evening, the woody, rustic, outdoor effect is always a naturally beautiful setting, enhanced greatly on moonlight nights. As many as a thousand people have gathered and many musicians of fame have contributed their services to the success of the undertaking. Our vision includes the thought of thus making Valley Forge a permanent scene for Music Festivals and Historical Pageants. During the dogwood season the weather is not so conducive to outdoor activities as it is in the summer. However, those May days and evenings have become so renowned because of the exquisite beauty of the blossoms, attracting visitors from all over the country, that there should be opportunity then also to carry out this ideal of music and pageantry. We hope to form a National Orchestra and Choir and Dramatic Group, which, separately and together, will present reënacted historical scenes, outstanding American historical dramas and musical compositions.

Valley Forge Art Center

Believing that all the Fine Arts should be fostered at Valley Forge, the beginning of an Art Center was organized and opened in December, 1940. A very enthusiastic class in water color and oil painting was formed with Roy Miller as the instructor. An exhibition of the first work of the members of this group was held the following year, and interesting suggestions as to the future of the Art Center were made. These have, of necessity, been tabled until the days of peace

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

come to us again. Beauty, truth and goodness are always at home with each other, and always at home where Divine and human creation unite as they have done at Valley Forge.

Fleming Family Complete Flag Collection

Members of the Fleming Clan, including one branch of the Philadelphia Biddle family, gathered at the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge and presented the Florida State Flag. The emblem, which completes the Chapel's collection of state banners, is given in memory of Frederic Alexander Fleming, of Florida, by his daughters, Mrs. Henry Canby Biddle, of Wayne, Pennsylvania, Mrs. George Laurence Austin, of Hartford, Connecticut, and Mrs. Louis Reineman, of Hibernia, Florida. At the close of the eleven o'clock service on September 13, 1942, the flag was presented to Dr. John Robbins Hart by grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Mr. Fleming—Henry Canby Biddle, Jr., Henry Canby Biddle, 3d, Elizabeth Wood Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Snyder, Jr., and Fleming Seton Austin.

Frederic Alexander Fleming enlisted in the War Between the States at the age of fifteen. In later years, Mr. Fleming was one of Florida's philanthropic and public-spirited citizens. He was especially interested in the problem of giving under-privileged people the right opportunities, and advocated improvements and corrections in the penal system. His memory will linger at Hibernia, on the banks of the St. John's River.

Flag Day Exercises

Flag Day, June 14, has become so significant that in the Philadelphia area, as in other parts of the country, we observe, not just the day, but the entire week. To open these patriotic exercises with the power and in the atmosphere of Valley Forge was the vision of the National American Flag Day Association, of which William T. Kerr is president. Accordingly, on Sunday afternoon at the beginning of the week of flag observance, appropriate exercises are held in the Chapel. President Kerr, Judge Leopold C. Glass, Perry F. Ramey, Harry A. Wagner, Dr. John R. Hart and other leaders in Flag Day observance take part in the radio broadcast service. The Chapel choir, assisted by guest artists, sing, and the carillon is played at the beginning and ending of the service.

Gracie Fields at Valley Forge

Golden-haired Gracie Fields, England's favorite comedienne, while touring this country for British War Relief, sang in a church for the first time in her life. She took part in the Sunday afternoon service at the Washington Memorial Chapel. Miss Fields, wearing the conventional choir vestments, sang Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer," kneeling in the first choir stall.

Later, at the outdoor Cathedral, hundreds of people gathered beneath the autumn tinted trees to hear her sing "Ave Maria," "God Bless America" and "There'll Always Be An England," in a way which brought forth expressions of the highest praise and gratitude.

After the ceremony, Miss Fields greeted a Kiltie Band and men in British uniforms. All the money contributed during the afternoon was turned over to British Relief. In the Log Cabin, where logs blazed cheerily, tea was served, and Miss Fields was presented with a lovely bouquet.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

The Valley Forge Historical Society

In a world of so much fiction, a historical society has a profound work to perform. "Truth is truth to the end of the reckoning" is a time-honored motto inscribed on the walls of so many of our educational institutions, and it affords a fine incentive to any student.

The Valley Forge Historical Society is deeply concerned about the discovering of truth and the right expression of it. Its span of time dates from the Revolutionary War, which in some ways seems far off and in others seems only the tick of the clock of history. During these 168 years we find many accuracies in the recording of history, which make our work easy, but also many omissions in recording and some mistakes. To some it may seem that the work of our Society has been more a display of historical exhibits—the maintaining of the Museum—than the efforts of the scholarly-minded to study and write and present more significant literary and historical data. Both have been done, and if there is a lack of the one, our directors and leaders plan to balance the account at this time. The various functions of an adequate historical society are to be equally cultivated.

There is also some difference of opinion about our field of work. Bearing in the title of its museum the study of all American history, the Society has promoted its work in all periods, beginning with the Revolution. On the other hand, the vivid realization that Valley Forge is Valley Forge because of the Revolutionary era, some think it better to concentrate on that period of our country's life and carry out a work of exquisite quality, though limited in its reach of time. This interesting consideration can be brought to a satisfactory conclusion, I believe, by proper emphasis and right proportion.

In keeping with the rapidly proceeding policy of unifying all people who come to Valley Forge into the best patriotism, faith and scholarship, I note with special satisfaction the various groups and persons who are now at work. Gilbert S. Jones brings a long and valuable experience as a journalist and as Executive Secretary of the Valley Forge Park Commission to our office of Secretary-

Treasurer and editor of the "Picket Post." Major William H. S. Bateman offers the help of the National Sojourners in our Society's coöperation with the plans for Patriots Hall, which follows the Bell Tower in the order of memorial building projects. Robert R. Titus represents the business men and has given valuable support and directed a successful financial adjustment during these difficult war days. The Hon. Theodore Lane Bean, former member of the Park Commission, and distinguished for his patriotic life throughout the State, contributed much to the progress and enlargement of Valley Forge as a national shrine. Dr. J. Newton Hunsberger, former President of the Society, continues his thought and devotion to the work with the simplicity and accuracy of the true science which he represents. Our records are constantly being revised and improved by Mrs. Burk, Miss Blanche Brunner and Miss Steelman. Major Edgar S. Gardner has combined our program with his work at the St. Andrew's Society, already giving law and order to the library and carrying out his individual historical research. He has been ably assisted by Mrs. Newton Hunsberger, Mrs. J. Harrison Johnston, Mrs. L. Ralph Phillips, and Mrs. Burk.

A word about the Library, I trust, will be appreciated. Most of the books were obtained through efforts on the part of the founder of the Chapel, Dr. Burk. He secured a varied collection—works old and new—many of which have to do with the life and tradition of the encampment and of our country. As a result, our library committee today has the task of dividing the books, deciding which should be kept and which should rightfully be disposed of. There are about 10,000 volumes and some of them are of rare significance. All of these books have been placed on the proper shelves. Cataloging is now required and when transportation facilities return it will be done. Every effort will be made to develop the library in keeping with the meaning and purpose of the Chapel and Museum. It was Dr. Burk's plan to erect a library building and it is to be hoped that some day this will materialize. At the present time the Bishop White room in the Peak Memorial wing of the building fulfills the purpose.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

The Roll of Honor

The Roll of Honor, bearing the names of our forty-two men and women who have joined the armed forces, was dedicated on Sunday morning, October 3, 1943.

This work of J. Harrison Johnston, a member of the congregation, I described as follows:

This beautiful, illuminated scroll, bearing the five approved seals in rich color and the forty-two honored names in gold leaf, has been drawn with such taste, skill and devotion that it suggests the work of the cloistered monks of the Middle Ages. We are grateful to the patient, painstaking workman. It is significant to note that the Roll of Honor now takes its place among the permanent appointments of the Chapel, in which only objects of beauty and spiritual significance ever find a place.

The words of dedication were: "In the name of God and in the faith of Jesus Christ we dedicate this Roll of Honor in the highest esteem of the men and women of the Washington Memorial Chapel who have entered the armed forces of our country."

Representatives of the Valley Forge and Norristown Chapters of the Red Cross were in attendance.

The names on the Roll of Honor are:

John R. Pugh
Edgar R. Owen
C. Colket Wilson, III
Samuel McCreery, Jr.
Theodore K. Pugh
Don Esterline
George S. Wilson
Donald W. Wilson
Frank Law
Caleb Cresson, VI
Charles M. Mower, Jr.
Frank Q. Andrews, Jr.
H. Lea Hudson
E. Swift Newton
Audrey Swift Newton
Henry Canby Biddle, Jr.
Gerry W. Cox
F. Woodson Hancock, Jr.
William J. Clothier, Jr.
Andrew W. Porter, Jr.
Russell H. Harris, M. D.
William H. Reeves, III
Robert Thomas
George Durham
Eleanor Punyko
William A. Raeburn, Jr.
Gordon Robertson
Bettie Mae Beck
George Beck
Arlington Shade
Merle Forth
William Forth
David Pugh
George R. Packard
Thomas Foster Bright
Joseph Borsius Croft, Jr.
William J. Latimer
James M. Large
Robert F. James
George E. Kerr
James K. Tindle
Robert M. Tindle
Donald V. Beck

Caleb Cresson, VI, is the one name in front of which appears a gold star. He was a sterling, idealistic young man, whose entire family have upheld the patriotism and faith of Valley Forge.

War Work at the Chapel

The chapel was adjudged by Mrs. Frederick H. Harjes, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Glenn a most appropriate location for sewing, knitting and similar war work. Many garments for the Red Cross and other organizations have been made by these workers who assemble from different places, sharing cars for transportation. There were so few clothes for the soldiers of the Continental Army at Valley Forge that this seems to be a contribution of unique meaning to our fighting forces at this time—a contribution that mingles spirit and patriotism with practical necessity. This good work continues as an abiding influence for many at home as well as for those at the front.

The Robert Morris Thanksgiving Tower

"A memorial to a free American people by a free American people."

With this motto was launched the effort to build the Robert Morris Thanksgiving Tower to house the renowned Washington Memorial National Carillon, consisting of forty-nine bells—one given by each state and the National Birthday Bell. The foundations were laid just before Pearl Harbor, at the end of the Porch of the Allies and adjoining the Museum Building.

For the past twenty years the bells, forty-three of which have been secured, have hung in a temporary structure behind the Chapel. Because it was designed to fulfill a temporary purpose, the building is adjudged unsafe for an extended period of service.

The new tower will be ninety-five feet in height, architecturally in keeping with the height of the Chapel. It will be made of the same kind of stone as the Chapel, with five stained glass windows wrought by Nicola D'Ascenzo, maker of the Chapel windows. Twenty-one Steps of Fame, leading to the entrance, will be in memory of the soldiers of the Continental Army. Inside, Steps of Progress, connecting the tower with the museum building, are likewise to be given as memorials to the men and women in this war. Apertures in the tower walls will make it possible to see the individual bells and the carilloneur.

Individuals and organizations have been asked to contribute, and the name of each donor is to be recorded in the tower. Up to the present time, more than five hundred gifts or pledges have been received, amounting to $25,000; but the war has naturally curtailed and postponed many plans for completing the necessary fund of $75,000.

Patriotic societies have responded to the appeal, and the Daughters of the American Revolution have taken a leading part. Beginning in Pennsylvania, the State Regent, Mrs. William S. Tompkins, appointed Mrs. William C. Langston, of York, to act as the chair-

man of a Pennsylvania State Committee. Under her thoughtful leadership such effective work was done that it won full approval in the National Congress, and Mrs. William Pouch, President General, has made the building of the tower a national project, with a committee to be appointed in every state. These committees will function under the office of the State Historians with supervision given by the Historian General, Mrs. Frederick A. Wallis, of Paris, Kentucky.

Mrs. Harper Sheppard is acting as a kind of special adviser as a result of her long experience as a leader of Daughters of the American Revolution projects and a member of the Valley Forge Park Commission. The members have designated the door as a memorial to their national leader, Mrs. Pouch, the keystone and arch above the door as a Pennsylvania State Memorial and in honor of the State Regent, Mrs. William A. Tompkins, and a beautiful lighting fixture within the tower as a memorial to the Real Daughters. In order to keep the various states well represented, as has been done in the other Valley Forge operations, the wall space will be divided into forty-eight sections in proportion to the state population, and each state will be asked to contribute its proportional share.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

"In the Beginning," *by Eleanor H. S. Burk*

Just as the opening guns of World War II were being fired, we were pleased to read a new history of the Chapel, skilfully written by Eleanor H. S. Burk, wife of the founder and first rector and a member of our Chapel and Museum staff. In addition to her many duties on our grounds where she makes her home at Defenders Gate, Mrs. Burk found time to write "In the Beginning."

This little book brings to our thought and feeling the heroic struggle of W. Herbert Burk in putting his dream and vision into effect. Many homey and humorous anecdotes are entertainingly told, and they show the versatility and attractiveness of the Chapel founder. His distinctive qualities are clearly portrayed, and, above all, his persistence and determined faith and practice in the face of every obstacle. Mrs. Burk writes: "When he first spoke of his plans, his friends told him he was crazy to think of building a Chapel at Valley Forge. They said he never could raise the money—and no one would ever come to it. They told him it couldn't be done, but he did it."

Profound tributes and appreciations of Valley Forge by men of national and international leadership, including Lord Bryce, Theodore Roosevelt, Sir Wilfred Powell and General Pershing are included. The work of Charles Custis Harrison, who was at the center of the efforts made in raising the $400,000, is well referred to.

A page entitled "Portrait of a Genius" affords a good appendix to Mrs. Burk's splendid book. This page reads:

A news item conveys the information that a patent for ornamental pew ends has been issued to Dr. W. Herbert Burk.

Will nothing stay the indomitable energy of this man of Valley Forge? Depression nor occasional ills seem to have any influence on him. He was sick on Sunday; but Monday found him, cheerful as ever, back at his desk strewn with all sorts of reports and plans and papers, heartening his co-workers, receiving many visitors, attending, as usual, to the day's work.

And in between, dreaming into actuality such things as pew ends and other details of the new and greater Church that is to rise on the ground adjoining the chapel, that he personally brought into being, one of the most splendid edifices upon the face of the earth.

Clergyman, executive organizer, builder, the many-sided Dr. Burk has been fortunate in the friends he has made. But their material support has come because they came to know and have faith in his talents to put their gifts to highest use.

To him they have entered ordinary lucre, and the alchemy of his genius has transmuted it into marvels of marble and of metal, poems in glass and wood, sermons in stone. The symphonic whole has glorified the art of architecture, but behind it all is the man who really made it, the modest soul who calls himself a country preacher.

Valley Forge Chapel is a place of beautiful things and words and memories. Dr. Burk has his able critics as well as his devoted admirers—as what man of action hasn't?—but he goes right on with the great work he is in. It must be the wish of every true Montgomery Countian that he will be spared to see it through.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

"Valley Forge," *by Gilbert S. Jones*

During the year 1942, a little book called "Valley Forge Park, an Historical Record and Guide Book," compiled by Gilbert S. Jones, was published.

Mr. Jones has devoted many years to the study and development of Valley Forge. He is the Executive Secretary of the Valley Forge Park Commission and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Valley Forge Historical Society. To our National Shrine, Mr. Jones brought a wide and successful experience in journalism and his writings are highly valued.

In this illuminating and attractive guide book we find a short, yet thorough, survey of the history of these historical grounds. Descriptions of the life of General Washington and his men at Valley Forge are clearly and accurately brought out. The privations and hardships of the soldiers, the arrangement of fortifications, the discipline and training are all well described.

The author also pictures the buildings, memorials and other works of recent years and the efforts made to preserve Valley Forge in the fullness of its unique tradition. Maps and photographs make the way very clear for the reader.

Mr. Jones' final paragraph affords a strong quotation:

> On this ground the common man, constituting the soul of a nation of free human beings, fought out the spiritual battle of his career, endured and triumphed in the majestic name of Duty. But symbolizing the place, supplying the clear atmosphere through which each incident of the time is seen, clothing the vision of each hut and hospital, each frozen foot and disease-ravaged body, each hunger-stricken yeoman, in every exhibition of character here exemplified, stands the crowning glory of Valley Forge—George Washington.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR I

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The Vestry

The Vestry is the managing board of the Chapel and consists of nine members elected by the congregation. They are Frank Quigg, who began with Dr. Burk and is the rector's warden; Samuel McCreery, the accounting warden; C. Colket Wilson, Jr., secretary; Federico F. Mauck, associate secretary; the Hon. Theodore Lane Bean, Dewitt P. Pugh, Jackson Wilson, Dr. Hubley R. Owen, and F. Woodson Hancock, Jr. These men hold positions of unique privilege and distinction and fulfill the requirements of their offices with great effectiveness and good will. They have increasingly made the economic basis of the Chapel work more secure, paying off old debts, and adjusting and re-investing endowment funds and other gifts in accordance with the best thought and wish of those who have gone before, and in keeping with modern business methods. Appropriate appointments and memorials are added as rapidly as wisdom dictates and funds are secured. The building of the Pulaski Bay, the installation of the brass tablets in the floor of the Chapel marking the State Panels in the Chapel roof, known as the Roof of the Republic, the new Choir Screen, given in memory of the late A. Edward Newton by his children, Caroline Newton and E. Swift Newton, the new Choir Stall in memory of Ida Pauline Croll Blackburn, by her children, Agnes Croll Blackburn and John Sharp Blackburn, Jr., the flags in the Chancel, completing the collection of the Brigade Flags of the Revolution, dedication of new bells in the Carillon, the addition of the beautiful scroll, painted by Beatrice Fox Griffiths, which marks the Robert Morris donation box, are among the definite results and achievements of the last four years.

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VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

The Park Commission

The Park Commission is appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. With its distinguished chairman, Major-General Edward C. Shannon, and the other members of the Commission, highly patriotic men and women, the Chapel leaders work in perfect harmony, and thereby Church and State find their natural and satisfying relationship.

The Commission has recently acquired all lands abutting the Schuylkill River on the north bank, from Betzwood to the Pawling Bridge, thereby protecting for all time the integrity of the Park and safeguarding the encampment grounds from commercial encroachment on the north and west.

Several important units of the original encampment have been restored, including Fort Mordecai Moore, Stirling Redoubt, Inner Line Rifle Pit, two redans flanking Fort Moore, two redans flanking Fort Washington. The Commission has acquired the original Commissary Quarters property, the site of Sullivan Bridge across the Schuylkill River, the site of the Picket Post of Varnum's Brigade and the land occupied by several companies of Sullivan's Brigade on the north bank of the Schuylkill River. Twenty-four other restorations, including that of the Old Forge, are recommended in the Commission's latest report to the Governor.

Adequate parking places at the Chapel and at the Dogwood grove have been provided. The entrances to the Park are being studied and will some day be arranged in a more attractive and convenient way.

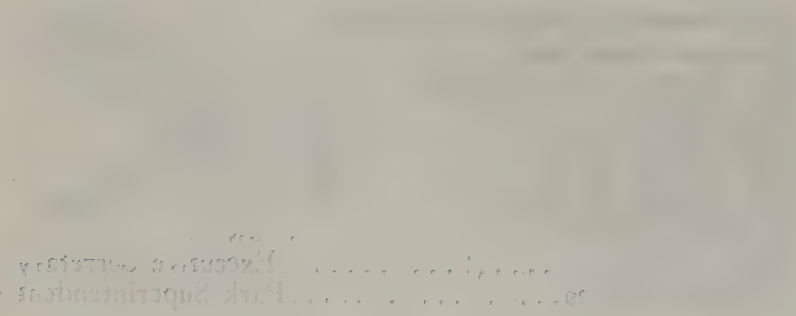
As a result of long efforts by the Commission, Valley Forge Park soon may present to interested visitors a complete roster of all the officers and men who served under Washington at Valley Forge. The National Archives have agreed to coöperate with the Commission and it is planned to obtain from those Federal records photostatic copies which shall be available for inspection at the Park.

The members of the Valley Forge Park Commission are:

Major-General Edward C. Shannon.....Chairman
Theodore Lane Bean.....Vice-Chairman

Mrs. Bessie Dobson Altemus	Mrs. Stacy B. Lloyd
Mrs. William J. Clothier	Ralph Morgan
Joseph Neff Ewing	Adolf Müller
Col. William Innes Forbes	Norris D. Wright
Mrs. Joseph G. Forney	Dr. Walter L. Wright
Dr. Thomas S. Gates	

Gilbert S. Jones.....Executive Secretary
L. Ralph Phillips.....Park Superintendent



The Summer Encampment

The Chapel grounds and buildings have been used during the past two summers as a camp by the cadets of the Valley Forge Military Academy. This large and attractive school, of which General Milton G. Baker is the efficient superintendent, is located just outside of Wayne in the direction of Valley Forge.

We were highly pleased to have this more intimate affiliation with the institution and to get so well acquainted with the cadets and the officers in charge. Col. Paul J. Dowling, Lt. Col. R. J. Scott, Major T. F. Robertson, Capt. R. B. Burr, 1st Lt. W. R. Coon, 1st Lt. J. R. Carroll, 2nd Lt. Roger Mills, Staff Sergeant Frank Boyko and Sergeant Robert Shorts comprised the officer personnel.

Lt. Col. Henry M. Prentiss, Chairman of the Academic Board of the Academy, has written a very full and enlightening article on the significance of the encampment. He outlines the purpose of the War Department in arranging the summer encampments for this and similar schools, and stresses the good fortune of having the historic grounds at Valley Forge as their camp site. The history and tradition of these sacred grounds guarantee deeper thought and feeling and stronger morale to these "latest sons of Valley Forge." He continues:

Possibly some of the lads on guard could sense the mystic presence of the great men whose leadership and patriotism outlasts the centuries. The shades of Washington, Lafayette, Wayne and Von Steuben must dominate ground lately echoing to the rattle of modern gunfire and the shout of twentieth century tactics. Valley Forge and its historic significance have been written into the hearts of this generation of its sons. The courtesy of Dr. Hubley R. Owen in permitting use of his private swimming pool was appreciated by all members of the detachment.

Amid the series of outdoor concerts given by our Music Center, the talent for one was supplied by the cadets, directed by their music instructor, Mr. Herman Weiss.

The Rev. E. Raymond Baublitz is the Chaplain of the Valley Forge Military Academy.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

Dedication Exercises

The Daughters of the American Revolution have, from the beginning, taken a leading part in building Valley Forge. The State Bells in the Carillon, the State Flags and the State Stars on the National Birthday Bell have been secured largely through the efforts of the members of this patriotic organization.

During the war years many officers and members have come to the Washington Memorial Chapel under the leadership of former President General Mrs. Henry M. Robert, Jr., and President General Mrs. William H. Pouch for the dedication of thirteen of the State Bells—Arizona, Washington, Iowa, Montana, Alabama, Arkansas, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, New Mexico and Florida, four State Flags—South Dakota, Louisiana, Oregon and Oklahoma, and five State Stars on the National Birthday Bell—Colorado, Florida, West Virginia, Illinois and Maryland. Inspiring patriotic ceremonies were held on each occasion, with many representatives from the different parts of the country in attendance.

VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

An Address* of April 27, 1941, at Washington Memorial Chapel

Last summer one of our young men at Valley Forge objected to a sign I put up on the bulletin board, which enumerated the faults of Adolf Hitler and his régime and suggested what might be done about it. This young man said the sign was so unfriendly in expression and spirit that it would breed more unfriendliness and more strife in turn, and in his opinion, no church should do that. He is a fine example of young American manhood and I respected his opinion. I have never mentioned this matter before, but today I want to talk about it. While we believe that this youth's thought was based on high idealism and is noble, yet I think now he would be the first to admit there are other ways of looking at the church and describing its function and purpose.

The original word for church in the Greek language means an "assembly" and at times a "legislative assembly"—the town meeting idea. As we think of the church's program, seven days a week, it includes an opportunity to come together under the right auspices, to exchange thought, to present the different points of view, discover the truth and learn what to do about it. The perfect serenity and peace, which my friend wanted the church to supply, is a part of the whole program and should always be included.

Since that time last summer we have become increasingly alarmed at world events and we must face appalling realities and necessities. Many different convictions have been, and are being, expressed and we are called upon to be tolerant and receptive to these opposing ideas.

This morning over at St. Paul's Church, in Chestnut Hill, I suppose the Rev. George Trowbridge is expressing his belief in pacificism, and no one has a better right to do so than George Trowbridge. A genuinely sincere man, exemplifying fine leadership.

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*Copies of this address by John Robbins Hart were sold for British War Relief.

Out in Cincinnati Bishop Henry Hobson may be reiterating his famous statement of a few days ago that Hitler must be stopped and that we should send everything to stop him and at once, including our own men if necessary. No one has a better right to say that than Henry Hobson. I was with him at the Northfield Student Conference when he returned from the First World War. He stood well above six feet tall and built in perfect proportion. A major at twenty-five, he won the highest service medals, and I do not believe Yale has ever turned out a better man. He was one of the few men whom I have ever known who was afraid of nothing. Not long ago he wrote a letter to the "Churchman" stating that he had been and still was a pacifist, but Hitler must be stopped. That is a fast use of words, but we understand his spirit.

And so we go on collecting whatever thought and conviction we can, and prepare, I trust, for anything.

This week Colonel Lindbergh said the worst thing which has yet been said, that England is now losing the war! Imagine the effect of those words, the psychology of so stimulating the courage of the enemy. Then we ask, how is England losing the war? Just because the countries of Europe have gone under, have been betrayed or have been unable to withstand the German attack, does not mean that England, too, has lost. England stands ready for all the "blood and tears" that Hitler can bring to that island, and if it ever did fall, let us not forget that Great Britain is an Empire, a mighty Empire, and can fight from place to place throughout the world as long as one man remains who believes in freedom or anything else that is decent. I add this for the same reason which prompted me to put up the sign last summer—lest we forget just what this Nazi menace really is. This Hitlerized Germany has destroyed the home, breaking every sanctity and tradition, as they demand more children for the state, produced wholesale, as rapidly as possible in order to feed the war machine, with every indecency replacing the ethics and standards that we believe in and try to live by. All these children are then educated

contrary to what we have tried to observe and foster. Not only were the textbooks burned, but the language is actually destroyed. Words in the language conveying ideas such as liberty, faith, love, kindness, charity and so on are stricken out and the youth of the nation taught their opposites with the purpose of banishing from the consciousness of the Third Reich these highest and noblest concepts.

This Nazi régime blasts religion and brings in the old pagan gods, Hitler deified and honored among them. They would retain the sacred seasons of the church, for which the older people still have a deep sentiment, but they use them to commemorate the old Norse and Teutonic deities which were abandoned centuries ago for the teachings of the Bible.

William E. Dodd, our former Ambassador to Germany, who left there in disgust, told me personally, in addition to his public utterances, of a statue outside Berlin: a German soldier with drawn sword standing on a Jew, in the act of cutting off his head. All soldiers are supposed to file past this statue.

Likewise, the economic consideration. I leave material things to the last as we are within the walls of a church, but material things, as the necessities of life, are important. All these economic goods the Hitlerized machine would change and control—we could have no chance in world trade and no chance to live the American way of life as we know it today.

Why do we wait, why are we uncertain? If there be another side, I want to hear it at once.

Abraham Lincoln gained great fame by stating that "We cannot exist half slave and half free." If he were here today would he not say this about the world? Certainly in the year 1863 the States of this country were not as much a unit as the world is now. We have become a neighborhood. The world is closer together, more integrated, more interdependent, than were the different sections of the United States, seventy-five years ago. Abraham Lincoln would say today this *world* cannot exist half slave and half free. It is for us to decide. Which shall it be?

As long as people live on this earth they will look up to a Cross on which a Good Man died in order that others might live and live eternally. That sacrificial death has been commemorated in many ways and, among others, by a poem written sixteen centuries ago. In more recent years this poem has become a hymn sung all over the world. It has a simple and expressive refrain:

"I gave My life for thee,
What hast thou done for Me?"

Well might the One who died on that Cross ask this question of you and me, and well might other millions who are dying today, paying the price for us, who believe what they believe, ask that question, too.

When summoned to appear before the bar of eternal justice, I would rather be guilty of every other crime than to remember that I had lived in this period of the world's history and had not known what to do, that I had failed to give all that I could for those who were working, fighting and dying for faith, freedom and fair play. I would hear each one say:

"I gave my life for thee,
What hast thou done for me?"

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VALLEY FORGE DURING WORLD WAR II

Conclusion

"What went ye out for to see?" These sacred words from the mind of the Master and recorded by His disciple, St. Luke, have a special interrogation as we reach the end of this book and journey away with our guests who have been seeing, through the printed page, the Valley Forge which we all claim and love.

Nature's wondrous store of beauty has greeted and welcomed you. Whether these everlasting hills were snow-clad, or the trees decked in dogwood blossoms or autumn leaf when you arrived, the blue sky, floating cloud or moonlight ray must have seemed more fair than before. The exalted dream and vision of man, finding expression in stained glass, carved wood and massive stone, gave you a transcendence of spirit. Did you picture the Continental troops in ragged array, knowing there was food somewhere but not getting to them, and share with these heroes of days gone by, some sense of what it means to give all? You saw the old Inn and Washington's Headquarters, and perhaps wondered about the many places where he knelt in prayer. Did this reality of his soul and the skillful training of his great drillmaster, Baron von Steuben, combine to give you the picture of why that army afterwards succeeded, and why we shall today? You saw a memorial Cross to Abraham Lincoln above the altar of a Chapel dedicated to the memory of George Washington. Did this effective union of these two great names give you strength for today and tomorrow?

You came, knowing that the dimensions of man are many and varied, and hoped that your highest—the indescribable and ineffable —would find peace at Valley Forge. Is it that way? If you came to see more or less, tell us. If more, tell us so that when you come again we may have your loftiest anticipation supplied and fulfilled; if less, then do confirm our hope that here indeed is an "Open Door" to the Infinite, where the voice of the spirit whispers again, "Behold, I make all things new."